



# CITY OF LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN APRIL 23, 2008

# **MINUTES**

# I. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Martin called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children (CYC) to order at 5:15 p.m., in the Parks, Recreation and Marine administration building's large conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

Present: MacKenzie Martin, 5th District Youth, Co-Chair

Rebecca Turrentine, Education, Co-Chair

Mary Soth, Early Childhood Development, Co Vice-Chair

Roselin Michael, 8<sup>th</sup> District Youth Jeanetta McAlpin, Social Services

Marc Rothenberg, *Juvenile Justice*Jon Meyer, *LBUSD Board of Education*Marty Isozaki, *Job Training*Jessica Quintana, *Parent* 

Absent: Excused – Victor Perez, Health

Excused - Helen Ingram, Education

Excused – Kelly McDonnell, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Youth

Excused – Chelsii Summerville, 4th District Youth, Co Vice-Chair

VACANT, 1<sup>st</sup> District Youth
VACANT, 6<sup>th</sup> District Youth
VACANT, 9<sup>th</sup> District Youth
VACANT, 9<sup>th</sup> District Youth
VACANT, Youth Enrichment

Staff: Sherri Nixon-Joiner, General Recreation Superintendent, Community

Recreation Services, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Marla Camerino, Clerical Support, Department of Parks, Recreation and

Marine

Guests: Jeff Williams, Long Beach Leadership

Syndi Dalton, Homeless Dialogue Collaborative Gary Shelton, Homeless Dialogue Collaborative

Victor Falcon, Youth

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Quintana to approve the February 27, 2008, Commission on Youth and Children minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

# Co-Chair Martin reordered the agenda at this time to bring forth Agenda Item VII.A.

# A. Homeless Community Forum Presentation and Video

Gary Shelton and Syndi Dalton of the Homeless Dialogue Collaborative spoke to the Commission on the homelessness issues that the City of Long Beach is facing and showed a video presentation that featured various families who spoke about their situations that brought them to become homeless. Mr. Shelton stated that as a result of a community dialogue that took place in October, several families featured on the video were provided housing and/or employment. Ms. Dalton added that another video would be created to feature youth facing homelessness, which will be shown at a forum entitled Shadow Life: A Dialogue and Documentary Screening About Our Young People Without Homes in Long Beach on May 27, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

- It was discussed that a survey was conducted in Long Beach, where it was found that more than 4,700 people are homeless in which approximately 2,600 are in shelters and 1,900 live on streets. Of the 1,900 living on the streets, half were youth and children.
- It was discussed that there are approximately 210 shelter beds nightly to accommodate approximately 1,900 people.
- It was discussed that there are only two (2) facilities in Long Beach that accommodate youth under the age of 18, who are homeless; however, once they reach the age of 18 they are no longer able to stay at the facilities. Statistics show 45% of the youth, who age out of the facilities, will become homeless within six (6) months.
- It was discussed that couples are not able to stay in shelters together.
- It was discussed that Commander Jay Johnson of the South Division of the Long Beach Police Department authorized the creation of a two man Quality of Life Unit, where Patrol Officers assist homeless people with housing, medical care and mental health assistance.

# III. COMMENTS: TIME GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSIONERS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS WITHIN THE JURISDICITION OF THE COMMISSION. EACH PERSON WILL BE ALLOWED 3 MINUTES UNLESS EXTENDED BY THE COMMISSION

There were no comments.

### IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

A. Monthly Citywide Services Report to Commission 🗹

The monthly report was included in the agenda packet that was mailed out.

## **B. Youth Services NETWORK**

Ms. Nixon-Joiner stated that the Youth Services NETWORK became inactive after the departure of Cynthia Fogg and we did not have any resources to keep it going. Ms. Nixon-Joiner stated that two organizations have expressed interest in putting the NETWORK back together.

# C. Commissioner Reappointments

Ms. Nixon-Joiner informed the Commissioners that their terms were ending in June of 2008. She informed the Commissioners that they would need to contact the Mayor's office to advise them as to whether or not they would like to continue their membership with the Commission.

# V. CO-CHAIRS REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

### A. Co-Chair Turrentine

Co-Chair stated that she attended a series of meetings that have been convened by Deputy City Manager, Reggie Harrison. Mr. Harrison was asked by City Council to provide a study session to address the youth and gang violence in the City. Co-Chair Turrentine stated that on May 13, Mr. Harrison will present the study session to City Council.

#### B. Co-Chair Martin

Co-Chair Martin stated that she had the opportunity to attend Senator Alan Lowenthal's 2008 Women of the Year Luncheon. Co-Chair Martin, who was nominated by Fifth District Councilmember Gerrie Schipske, is the only youth to ever receive the award.

### VI. REPORTS

# A. Standing Committees

# 1. <u>Executive Committee</u> Co-Chairs Turrentine and Martin, Co Vice-Chairs Soth and Summerville, Commissioner Meyer

Co-Chair Turrentine stated that the Executive Committee met to plan tonight's agenda. In addition, they discussed planning for the next Annual Report and Profile.

 Public Relations Committee - Commissioners McAlpin, Rothenberg, Summerville, and Turrentine

The Public Relations Committee did not meet.

# **B. Special Committees**

**1.** <u>Long Beach Youth Fund Committee</u> - Commissioners McDonnell, Martin, Michael, Summerville, Ingram and McAlpin.

Co-Chair Martin stated that the application has been sent out, which is due in the beginning of May. Co-Chair Martin stated that the application is posted on the website and that Marla has copies as well.

# C. Standing Item Reports

# 1. <u>District Level Youth Advisory Councils - Report on DLYAC meetings</u>

Commissioner Michael stated that a few members of the Eighth District Youth Advisory Council enjoyed a trip to the Grand Prix.

Co-Chair Martin stated that the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council met to discuss the future plans of the Council. The Council plans to host their meetings at Millikan High School during lunch to help promote involvement.

**2.** <u>Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force</u> - Commissioners Rothenberg, Summerville, and McDonnell

Commissioner Rothenberg stated that an update was provided by the Long Beach Police Department to the Task Force. In addition, an individual who was involved in an incident at Ernest S. McBride, Sr. Park provided a statement. The Task Force also discussed some of the projects that the sub-committees are involved with. Commissioner Rothenberg also stated that on May 5, an Expungement Workshop will be provided for individuals who are looking to clear their criminal records.

**3.** <u>Safe and Smart After School Sustainability Committee</u> - Commissioners Turrentine, Meyer

Commissioner Meyer stated that he had no new information report.

### **D. Non-Committee Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner McAlpin stated that she attended an Immigration Integration Forum, where one of the issues focused on was prevention strategies to help youth get along.

Commissioner McAlpin is requesting that individuals from LBUSD's Gang Intervention Specialist Office and the Truancy Office to speak to the Commission regarding the scope of their work.

# VII. <u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>

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# A. Homeless Community Forum Presentation and Video

This item was previously discussed.

# VIII. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

### A. Resource Guide

<u>Recommended Action</u>: Ask staff to prepare a letter, on behalf of the Commission on Youth and Children, inviting Human Dignity Officer, Melissa Morgan, to the next Commission meeting to report on the status of the Resource Guide.

It was moved by Co-Chair Turrentine and seconded by Commissioner Meyer to have staff prepare a letter to Melissa Morgan, inviting her to the next Commission meeting to discuss the status of the Resource Guide. The motion carried unanimously.

# IX. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Co-Chair Martin adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m. to the next regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2008, at 5:00 p.m.

This information is available in an alternative format by request to Jane Grobaty at (562) 570-3232.

The City of Long Beach intends to provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special accommodation is desired, please call Marla Camerino 48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-1607.

